

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee. I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

As a teacher that taught during the pandemic, there were so many strategies and skills we had to learn about- on the fly- with little to no support. We dedicated hours outside the school day to revamp curriculum, create stand alone lessons for the students that missed our live lessons over zoom, and to connect with colleagues to discuss how to successfully move forward. I did all of this for those two years while also monitoring and helping my two elementary aged children navigate from the family side of things. That one small bullet point in this bill that calls for a Covid benefit enhancement would go a long way to saying that our work, in that great time of need, did not go unnoticed.

Thank you for your work in addressing the teacher shortage and the retention of keeping dedicated teachers in the education field.

